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Draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load

Comment On: EPA-R03-OW-2010-0736-0001

Clean Water Act Section 303(d): Notice for the Public Review of the Draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Chesapeake Bay

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Anonymous public comment

Submitter Information

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General Comment

I grew up in Baltimore, born 1942. One of my favorite foods there was Chesapeake crab cakes. I also remember going downtown weekly with my mother in Baltimore to the big indoor market where fish stalls teamed with marvelous fish and seafood. I no longer live in Baltimore, but I hate to hear that the Bay is so polluted that fish and seafood supplies are down and also that one might need to be cautious whether to eat these products of the Bay which we used to take for granted as our Maryland bounty.

The Chesapeake Bay needs your help. For more than 25 years, scientists have documented the damaging levels of pollution that drain into Bay rivers and streams, leaving many waters unfit for swimming or fishing and depleting once abundant shellfish populations.

The draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is a strong step in the right direction. It sets clear pollution limits, deadlines and consequences for failure that would ensure that the job gets done. It would allow states the flexibility to determine how best to achieve results, tap market efficiencies to save businesses and taxpayers money, and provide support and guidance to states and localities to help them make on-the-ground progress.

The Chesapeake Bay can't afford more excuses and delay. I urge you to finalize a strong, accountable final TMDL, and to continue working with the states to ensure that their plans will deliver much-needed results.